South Carolina K-12 School Technology Initiative Committee Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2026

Attendees:

Nathan Hogue, Admin
Robert Nichols, Admin
Victoria Thomas, Admin
Karen Rumfelt, Admin
Mackenzie Jackson, Admin
Clark Kirkland, Admin
Petra Turner, Admin
Madison Dawkins, Admin
Dan Ralyea, SCDE
Jeff Childers, SCDE
Valarie Byrd, SCDE
Leesa Aiken, State Library
Adrienne Fairwell, SCETV
Salandra Bowman, SCETV
Dana Yow, EOC
Matthew Lavery, EOC
Mark Leslie, Richland 1 SD
Jason Jones, AT&T
Brian Spittle, Fort Mills Schools
Lynn Fralick, Segra
Andrew Epting, E-Rate Central
Chris McSwain, Spartanburg Public Library
Gabrielle Tyner, Orange Grove Charter
Greg Gilstrap, Anderson 1 SD
Joe Mark, Fox Creek High School

Nathan Hogue completed role call at 1:01pm. Noting a quorum of Committee members, Nathan Hogue called the meeting to order. Nathan turned the meeting over to Victoria to provide E-Rate updates.

E-Rate Update

Victoria Gooch provided an update on various E-Rate related issues to the Committee.

1: Victoria gave an overview of application status for the coming funding year
- Separate applications are being completed for entities with no changes and entities that are new/upgrading during the funding year
- 13 total applications completed to ensure applications and monthly bandwidth match, per USAC requirements
- All applications are in the initial review and audit process

2: No changes will be made to the Bandwidth Allocation Policy for the coming funding year

- The policy approved last year does not have an expiration date, so we are able to review for changes next year, leaving it as is now

3: Proviso Update

- Victoria has emailed SCETV and SCSL for their proviso updates
- It was requested that more time be provided for review this year, so Victoria is asking the Committee to submit updates by May, with a proviso deadline of July 1
- Once the proviso is updated, Victoria will reach out to the Committee regarding Progress Report material
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Nathan Hogue recognized the K12 team for their flexibility with regards to recent funding application changes. He asked if there were any questions for Victoria; none were heard.

Robert Nichols, K12 Budget Kickoff

Robert noted that he aims to send budget request forms to the Partners late next week, allowing approximately a month for submissions

The goal will be to meet in June to finalize requests and budget numbers, then holding our annual Principals' Meeting in August for budget approval.

Nathan mentioned the sooner we receive budget requests, the faster we will be able to process and submit final requests so encouraged everyone to submit timely. He asked the Committee if there were any questions, and hearing none, moved to SCDE.

Dan Ralyea, SCDE

Dan Ralyea introduced the new CIO of Department of Education to the Committee. Jeff Childers comes with over 30 years of technology leadership, with emphasis in AI implementation, cloud technology, and cybersecurity. His most recent experience is with modernization, and his experience aligns very closely with the goals of the Department of Education.

Before moving the meeting to open discussion, Nathan requested a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2025 K-12 Committee meeting. Matther Lavery (EOC) motioned, and Adrienne Fairwell (SCETV) provided a second. December 2025 K-12 minutes are approved and will be posted to the K-12 Technology Initiative Website.

There were no questions or additional comments during open discussion.

Adjournment

Hearing no other new or old business, Nathan Hogue motioned that the meeting be adjourned at 1:26pm.